

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A microneedle device comprising:
 - a substrate comprising a first major surface; and
 - at least one microneedle projecting from the first major surface of the substrate, the at least one microneedle comprising a base proximate the first major surface of the substrate, wherein the at least one microneedle is tapered from the base to a ~~solid~~ flat tip distal from the base such that the at least one microneedle comprises a truncated tapered shape;
 - wherein the ~~solid~~ flat tip comprises a surface area measured in a plane aligned with the base of 20 square micrometers or more and 250 square micrometers or less.
2. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one microneedle comprises a plurality of microneedles.
3. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein the flat tip comprises a surface area of 100 square micrometers or less.
4. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein the flat tip comprises a surface area of 50 square micrometers or less.
5. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one microneedle comprises a height above the first major surface and a maximum base dimension, the height and the maximum base dimension ratio defining an aspect ratio, wherein the aspect ratio is 2:1 or more.
6. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one microneedle is formed of one or more polymers.

7. (Original) A device according to claim 1, wherein the base of the at least one microneedle comprises a base area of 900 square micrometers or more.

8. (Previously Presented) A microneedle device comprising:

a substrate comprising a first major surface; and

a plurality of microneedles projecting from the first major surface of the substrate, each microneedle of the plurality of microneedles comprising a base proximate the first major surface of the substrate, wherein each microneedle of the plurality of microneedles is formed of one or more polymers and is tapered from the base to a ~~solid~~ flat tip distal from the base such that each microneedle of the plurality of microneedles comprises a truncated tapered shape;

wherein the ~~solid~~ flat tip comprises a surface area measured in a plane aligned with the base of 20 square micrometers or more and 100 square micrometers or less;

wherein the base of each microneedle of the plurality of microneedles comprises a base area of 900 square micrometers or more;

and wherein each microneedle of the plurality of microneedles comprises a height above the first major surface and a maximum base dimension, the height and the maximum base dimension ratio defining an aspect ratio, wherein the aspect ratio is 3:1 or more.

9–16 (Cancelled)

17. (Original) A method of using a microneedle device, the method comprising:

providing a microneedle device according to claim 1;

contacting the skin on a patient with the at least one microneedle;

forcing the microneedle device against the skin.

18. (Cancelled)

19.-40. (Withdrawn)